AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A mounting for a reel mower,

the reel mower having a rigid framework carrying:

a pair of ground engaging forward wheels rotatably disposed about a wheel axis,

a ground engaging roller rearward of the wheels and disposed about a roller axis parallel the wheel axis, and

a grass cutting reel between the wheels rotatable about a reel axis generally parallel the wheel axis for cutting grass,

the framework carrying a caster pivot coupling mechanism adapted for transfer of forces from a vehicle to move the mower to the framework, the caster pivot coupling mechanism permitting pivoting of the framework about a pivot axis having a substantial vertical component thereto,

the pivot axis disposed in a central plane normal the wheel axis centered between the wheels, the caster pivot coupling mechanism mounted to the framework for moving in the central plane between a forward position and a rear position,

the caster pivot coupling mechanism assuming the forward position when the caster pivot coupling mechanism is moved forwardly,

the caster pivot coupling mechanism assuming the rear position when the caster pivot coupling mechanism is moved rearwardly,

the forward position located sufficiently forwardly relative the wheel axis that in the forward position on forward movement of the caster pivot coupling mechanism, the mower

following the pivot axis with frictional drag of the mower on the ground biasing the mower to pivot about the pivot axis to assume an orientation with the wheel axis normal to the pivot axis and with the wheels maintained forward of the roller such that the wheels precede the roller as the mower moves forwardly,

the rear position located sufficiently rearward relative the wheel axis that in the rear position on rearward movement of the caster pivot coupling mechanism, the mower following the pivot axis with frictional drag of the mower on the ground biasing the mower to pivot about the pivot axis to assume an orientation with the wheel axis normal to the pivot axis and with the wheels maintained forward of the roller such that the rollers precede the wheels as the mower moves rearwardly.

2. (Newly Added) A mounting for a reel mower as claimed in claim 1 wherein in the forward position the pivot axis is forward of the wheel axis, and in the rear position the pivot axis is rearward of the wheel axis.

3. (Newly Added) A mounting for a reel mower as claimed in claim 1 wherein the framework including a pair of generally vertical end plates and a bridge member fixedly joining the end plates together,

each end plate being laterally adjacent a respective one of the wheels,

the roller extending between the end plates,

the bridge member extending between the end plates at a height above the wheel axis.

4. (Newly Added) A mounting for a reel mower as claimed in claim 3 including a slide member slidably coupled to the bridge member for sliding between a forward stop and a rearward stop along a slide axis lying in the central plane,

the slide member carrying at a forward end thereof a journaling pivot surface disposed coaxially about the pivot axis and by which forces from a vehicle to move the framework are coupled to the framework to permit pivoting of the framework about the pivot axis relative the vehicle.

5. (Newly Added) A mounting for a reel mower as claimed in claim 3 wherein a journal tube member is secured to the bridge member and provides a cylindrical bore therethrough about a bore axis lying in the central plane and having a substantial horizontal component thereto,

a slide rod slidably received in the bore for sliding coaxially in the bore, the slide rod carrying a forward stop and a rearward stop which limit relative coaxial sliding of the slide rod in the bore,

the slide rod journalled for pivoting in the bore about the bore axis,

the slide rod carrying at a forward end thereof a journaling pivot surface disposed coaxially about the pivot axis and by which forces from a vehicle to move the framework are coupled to the framework to permit pivoting of the framework about the pivot axis relative the vehicle,

wherein with the slide rod slid forward within the bore to an extent permitted by the rear stop the caster pivot coupling mechanism is in the forward position, and with the slide rod slid rearward within the bore to an extent permitted by the forward stop the caster pivot coupling mechanism is in the rearward position.

6. (Newly Added) A mounting for a reel mower as claimed in claim 5 wherein in the forward position the pivot axis is forward of the wheel axis, and in the rear position the pivot axis is rearward of the wheel axis.

7. (Newly Added) A mounting for a reel mower as claimed in claim 5 wherein the journal pivot surface comprises a cylindrical opening through the slide rod generally normal to the pivot axis.

8. (Newly Added) A mounting for a reel mower as claimed in claim 5 wherein the slide rod has a cylindrical slide portion slidably received within the bore and the forward stop and rearward stop comprise radially enlarged portions at each end of the slide portion which engage front and rear ends of the tube member.

9. (Newly Added) A mounting for a reel mower as claimed in claim 8 wherein in the forward position the pivot axis is forward of the wheel axis, and in the rear position the pivot axis is rearward of the wheel axis.